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**TRANSITIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS**  
**SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD**

**OFFICIAL REPORT**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**JANUARY 18, 2018**

**ST. LOUIS, MO**

**M I N U T E S**

The Special Administrative Board (SAB) of the Transitional School District of the City of St. Louis met on the above date. The meeting was held at the Administrative Building in Room 108, 801 N. 11<sup>th</sup> Street, St. Louis, MO 63101. Those in attendance were Mr. Rick Sullivan, Mr. Richard K. Gaines, Superintendent Dr. Kelvin Adams, Mr. Jeffrey St. Omer, the District's Legal Counsel and Ms. Ruth Lewis. Mrs. Darnetta Clinkscale participated via teleconference.

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Mr. Sullivan called the meeting to order at 6:08PM on the following roll call.

**AYE:** Mrs. Darnetta Clinkscale, Mr. Richard K. Gaines, Mr. Rick Sullivan

A quorum was present.

The Board and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silence was given in honor of Mrs. Frankie Muse Freeman and Mr. Joseph "JoJo" White.

Mrs. Frankie Muse Freeman, a civil rights attorney and first woman to be appointed to the United States Commission on Civil Rights, passed on January 12, 2018. For nearly sixty years, Mrs. Freeman was a practicing attorney in State and Federal courts. She was instrumental in creating the Citizens' Commission on Civil Rights that was founded in 1982. At the initial inception of the St. Louis Community - Monitoring and Support Task Force Committee on the St. Louis Public Schools (SLPS), Mrs. Freeman served as one of two co-chairs. In 2007, she was inducted into the International Civil Rights Walk of Fame at the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site in Atlanta, Georgia, for her leadership role in the Civil Rights Movement. On February 5, 2015, President Barack Obama appointed Mrs. Freeman to serve as a Member of the Commission on Presidential Scholars. Mrs. Freeman lived to be 101 year old.

Mr. Joseph Henry "JoJo" White, an African American professional basketball player and native of St. Louis, Missouri, started his career at McKinley High School. He was also an all American at the University of Kansas. During his career span, Mr. White completed a ten-year stint with the Boston Celtics of the NBA where he led the team towards two NBA championships and set a franchise record of 488 consecutive games played. He was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 2015 and represented the U.S. men's basketball team during the 1968 Summer Olympics. Mr. White passed on January 16, 2018.

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## **STUDENT/STAFF RECOGNITIONS**

Recognitions this meeting went to Teacher Barbara Knapp of Soldan Int'l Studies High School, Teacher Karin Versen of the Patrick Henry Downtown, Mrs. Sharon Davis, Help Desk Manager in the Technology Department and Ms. LaShonda Davis, Secretary at Bryan Hill Elementary School.

Ms. Knapp and Ms. Versen were recipients of a classroom grant receiving \$500 each from the Missouri Retired Teachers' Foundation. Mrs. Sharon Davis was the November 2018 Employee of the Month and Ms. LaShonda Davis was recognized as the December 2018 Employee of the Month. Employee of the Month awardees received a personal plaque of acknowledgement and a monetary gift certificate. Each award recipient was invited to make remarks.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Charles Murphy, Local 420 Building Steward at Roosevelt High School and classroom teacher at same, brought forth a personnel related matter regarding a specific administrator. Likewise, Ms. Sally Toppings, President of AFT St. Louis, Local 420, (teachers, secretarial/clerical and paraprofessional employees) brought forth personnel related issues occurring at Roosevelt High School, Hamilton Elementary School and Fresh Start Academy.

Mr. Sullivan provided a reminder to Ms. Toppings of their 1-17-18 conversation where he advised Ms. Toppings that personnel matters are addressed by the Superintendent. While the public comment segment of the board meetings are not intended for a response by the SAB, the SAB reserves discretion to address a comment(s) as so deemed necessary.

Ms. Kathleen Farrell representing the League of Women Voters, Ms. Susan Turk, on the behalf of Save Our Schools Of Missouri, Ms. Susan Jones, as a parent (*Ms. Jones is the President of the Elected Board*), Mr. Lew Moye, a St. Louis City resident, and Ms. Cathy Sherwin of MOVP Coalition of Labor Union for Woman, all shared respective positions in support of returning governance back to the "Current" Elected Board of Education. Mr. Bill Monroe did not formally speak but was in support of Ms. Farrell's and Ms. Turk's comments. (He inadvertently stated "Ms. Lewis", but was referring to the two previous speakers before him, Ms. Farrell and Ms. Turk.)

Mr. Danny Flowers appeared for the 15<sup>th</sup> time before the Board retelling his position in response to the District's 11-9-16 final decision letter denying his claim for a financial reimbursement for damages sustained to his vehicle as a result of a theft while parked outside in front of Beaumont High School. Under Board policy Mr. Flowers' claim was ineligible.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Sullivan called for a motion and a second to approve the November 21, 2017 open session meeting minutes. On a motion by Mrs. Clinkscale and seconded by Mr. Gaines, on the following roll call vote, the Board voted to approve the November 21, 2017.

**AYE:** Mrs. Clinkscale, Mr. Gaines, Mr. Sullivan

**NAY:** None

The motion passed.

Mr. Sullivan called for a motion and a second to approve the December 7, 2017 open session meeting minutes. On a motion by Mrs. Clinkscale and seconded by Mr. Gaines, on the following roll call vote, the Board voted to approve the December 7, 2017.

**AYE:** Mrs. Clinkscale, Mr. Gaines, Mr. Sullivan  
**NAY:** None

The motion passed.

Mr. Sullivan called for a motion and a second to approve the December 20, 2017 open teleconference meeting minutes. On a motion by Mrs. Clinkscale and seconded by Mr. Gaines, on the following roll call vote, the Board voted to approve the December 20, 2017 open teleconference meeting minutes.

**AYE:** Mrs. Clinkscale, Mr. Gaines, Mr. Sullivan  
**NAY:** None

The motion passed.

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

*(The Proposed 2018-2019 School Calendar was listed on the Consent Agenda, but was not presented. This report is scheduled for the February 13, 2018 meeting.)*

Mrs. Angie Banks, CFO/Treasurer reported on the General Operating Budget and Financial Updates. Under this report, Mrs. Banks requested approval of Amendment #1 for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 General Operating Budget. State law requires that a budget amendment be made prior to actual expenditures if a given fund exceed the officially approved budget for that fund. Below is an excerpt of Mrs. Banks' report.

<b><u>The 2017-2018 GOB (Audited)</u></b>		<b><u>2nd Quarter GOB</u></b>	
Revenues	309,808,281	Revenues	\$96,667,531
Expenditures	280,367,887	Expenditures	\$83,087,179
Surplus	\$29,440,394		
Beginning Fund Balance	\$20,116,003		
Ending Fund Balance	\$49,253,140		
<b>FY 2017- 2018 GOB AMENDMENT #1</b>		<b>FY 2017- 2018B GOB ADOPTED BUDGET</b>	
Revenues	\$311,822,338	Revenues	299,222,338
Expenditures	\$302,696,176	Expenditures	293,446,176

See Resolution Number 01-18-18-06, page 4 of these minutes.

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## **Business items - CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Sullivan called for a motion and a second to approve Resolution Numbers 01-18-18-01 through 01-18-18-06. On a motion by Mr. Gaines and seconded by Mrs. Clinkscale, on the following roll call vote, the Board voted to approve Resolution Numbers 01-18-18-01 through 01-18-18-06.

**AYE:** Mrs. Clinkscale, Mr. Gaines, Mr. Sullivan

**NAY:** None

The motion passed.

**(01-18-18-01)** To approve an amendment to Board Resolution 06-22-17-39, the 2017-2018 approved vendors list to include Achieve 3000. Achieve 3000 was a respondent to the District's RFPs for purchases of supplemental materials by all District schools, but was mistakenly omitted from the list when submitted. The total approved amount of 5,000,000 remains the same.

**(01-18-18-02)** To approve a purchase of up to 150 uniforms and other related safety equipment/supplies from Leon Uniform Company at a total combined cost not to exceed \$25,768. This purchase is for the Safety and Security Officers. The cost of this request is under the 16-17 pricing that was extended for one more year. This item will go out for bid during the 17-18 school year for new pricing in the 18-19 school year.

**(01-18-18-03)** To approve a contract renewal with Follett Systems to provide the centralized library, textbooks and asset management system for the period January 18, 2018 through January 17, 2019 at a cost not to exceed \$71,000.

**(01-18-18-04)** To approve a contract renewal with BTU, LLC to provide E-Rate consulting services for the period February 1, 2018 through January 31, 2019 at a cost not to exceed \$88,000.

**(01-18-18-05)** To approve a Memorandum of Understanding with the University Missouri-St. Louis College of Optometry/Center for Eye Care for the period January 19, 2018 through June 30, 2018 to provide a school based vision program for students at Beaumont, Clyde C. Miller, Therapeutic at Madison, Gateway STEM, McKinley, Metro, Northwest, Sumner, and Vashon High Schools.

**(01-18-18-06)** To approve Amendment #1 for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 General Operating Budget. Revenues include an additional \$12.6M primarily for property taxes, State Aid, E-Rate, and property sales. Expenditures include an additional \$9.2M to support pension contributions, new ERP system, facilities projects and transportation. Expenditures will not exceed \$302,696,176.

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Mr. Sullivan called for a motion and a second to approve Resolution Number 01-18-18-07. On a motion by Mr. Gaines and seconded by Mrs. Clinkscale, on the following roll call vote, the Board voted to approve Resolution Number 01-18-18-07.

**AYE:** Mrs. Clinkscale, Mr. Gaines, Mr. Sullivan  
**NAY:** None

The motion passed.

**(01-18-18-07)** To approve and adopt the 2018 Legislative Platform/Items for the St. Louis Public Schools (SLPS).

Mr. Sullivan called for a motion and a second to approve Resolution Number 01-18-18-08. On a motion by Mr. Gaines and seconded by Mrs. Clinkscale, on the following roll call vote, the Board voted to approve Resolution Number 01-18-18-08.

**AYE:** Mrs. Clinkscale, Mr. Gaines, Mr. Sullivan  
**NAY:** None

The motion passed.

**(01-18-18-08)** To approve a sole source contract with BloomBoard to provide the platform for the SLPS Micro-credential Program for teachers completing competency-based professional development in conjunction with Maryville University for credit towards the Master of Education Degree for the period of January 19, 2018 through June 30, 2019 at a cost not to exceed \$25,000. This 18-month contract was provided at a significant cost savings to the District.

Mr. Sullivan called for a motion and a second to approve Resolution Number 01-18-18-09. On a motion by Mrs. Clinkscale and seconded by Mr. Sullivan, on the following roll call vote, the Board voted to approve Resolution Number 01-18-18-09.

**AYE:** Mrs. Clinkscale, Mr. Sullivan  
**ABSTAIN:** Mr. Gaines (conflict of interest)  
**NAY:** None

The motion passed.

**(01-18-18-09)** To approve a contract with USI (Benefit Consultants) to provide benefit consulting services for the period of January 19, 2018 through December 31, 2018 at a cost not to exceed \$112,000.00. The new contract is approximately a 26% reduction from the previous contract resulting in a savings of \$39,700.00. This is the first year of a 2-year renewal option.

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Mr. Sullivan called for a motion and a second to approve Resolution Number 01-18-18-10. On a motion by Mrs. Clinkscale and seconded by Mr. Gaines, on the following roll call vote, the Board voted to approve Resolution Number 01-18-18-10.

**AYE:** Mrs. Clinkscale, Mr. Gaines, Mr. Sullivan

**NAY:** None

The motion passed.

**(01-18-18-10)** To rescind Resolution Number 09-07-17-05, a sole source contract renewal with Children's Advocacy Services of Greater St. Louis to provide the Trauma Informed Programming for Schools program in 15 SLPS elementary schools, 6 north county schools and 6 non-public schools for the period of October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018 at a cost not to exceed \$265,376.00. Implementation of program services and the agreed upon revisions of same required this rescission. Three additional schools will be added, the cost of services were reduced from \$265,376.00 to \$260,933.00 and the period of service is July 1, 2017 and ending at this current fiscal year, June 30, 2018.

Mr. Sullivan called for a motion and a second to approve Resolution Number 01-18-18-11. On a motion by Mrs. Clinkscale and seconded by Mr. Gaines, on the following roll call vote, the Board voted to approve Resolution Number 01-18-18-11.

**AYE:** Mrs. Clinkscale, Mr. Gaines, Mr. Sullivan

**NAY:** None

The motion passed.

**(01-18-18-11)** To ratify and approve a sole source contract renewal with Children's Advocacy Services of Greater St. Louis for the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 to provide the Trauma Informed Programming for Schools (TIPS) program in 18 SLPS elementary schools, 6 north county schools and 6 non-public schools in the City of St. Louis at a cost not to exceed \$260,933.00. This is year two of a two year contract.

Mr. Sullivan called for a motion and a second to approve Resolution Number 01-18-18-12. On a motion by Mr. Gaines and seconded by Mrs. Clinkscale, on the following roll call vote, the Board voted to approve Resolution Number 01-18-18-12.

**AYE:** Mrs. Clinkscale, Mr. Gaines, Mr. Sullivan

**NAY:** None

The motion passed.

**(01-18-18-12)** To ratify and approve a contract with Harris Stowe State University for the period January 16, 2018 through June 30, 2018 for the SLPS Dual Enrollment partnership to allow up to 50 SLPS high school students to attend classes (English 0040, and Mathematics 0040) two days a week on HSSU's campus at a cost not to exceed \$47,800.

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## **BOARD REPORT**

### **SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON GOVERNANCE DISCUSSION**

Mr. Richard K. Gaines, Chairman of the St. Louis Public Schools Special Committee Task Force provided the report on the Long-Term Governance of the St. Louis Public Schools.

The Special Administrative Board (SAB), Mr. Rick Sullivan, Mr. Richard K. Gaines, and Dr. Melanie Adams (Dr. Melanie Adams resigned after a 9-year term to accept a position in St. Paul, Minnesota. Mrs. Darnetta Clinkscale was appointed to replace her) were appointed to manage the SLPS in the summer of 2007. Not only was the SAB faced with the momentous task of regaining accreditation, but also inherited a \$65M budget deficit. The SAB held two public meetings to hear the public on issues they, the public, believed contributed to the ongoing conflicts in the educational processes within the District. At the same time citizens wanted to know how the SAB planned to address those issues and more. From there, the SAB launched a search for a Superintendent who could match their task at hand. Dr. Kelvin R. Adams became the Superintendent in November 2008.

On January 10, 2017, the Missouri State Board of Education voted unanimously to grant Full Accreditation to SLPS. The SAB and the community took the position that it was time to transition governance of SLPS. In October 2017 a structure on how to proceed was developed. A nine (9) member Special Committee Task Force (The Committee) was formed to hear experts on three types of governance structures - Elected Board Governance, Appointed Board Governance and Hybrid Board Governance. Three (3) public meetings (noted below) were held with live stream viewing. Public comments were also taken at each meeting.

**Meeting #1:** Monday, November 6, 2017  
Vashon High School, 3035 Cass Avenue  
Topic: Elected Board Governance  
Speakers: Melissa Randol and Janet Tilley  
Missouri School Boards' Association

**Meeting #2:** Thursday, November 9, 2017  
Vashon High School, 3035 Cass Avenue  
Topic: Appointed Board Governance  
Speaker: Dr. Kenneth Wong of Brown University

**Meeting #3:** Monday, November 13, 2017  
Northwest Academy of Law, 5140 Riverview Blvd.  
Topic: Hybrid Board Governance  
Speaker: Michael Casserly of the Council of Great City Schools



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The Committee was presented information from several experts and a tremendous number of recommendations from the community. The SAB thanked those individuals who gave of their time and expended energy, with no pay, for taking on this responsibility. The Task Force Committee Members are:

Mrs. Addie Bond, St. Louis Public Schools' Parent  
Ms. Charli Cooksey, Elected School Board Member  
Mr. Ray Cummings, AFT St. Louis, Local 420

Mr. Kaylan Holloway, St. Louis Public Schools' Teacher  
Mrs. Stephanie Hudson, Attorney and Law Professor  
Mr. Michael Jones, Pastor of Friendly Temple Church - St. Louis City

Mr. Rich McClure, Former Co-Chair of the Ferguson Commission and  
Retired President of Uni-Group

Mr. David Merideth, St. Louis Public School's Parent  
Mr. Adolphus Pruitt, President – Saint Louis City NAACP

The Committee met in open session on December 4, 2017 and January 17, 2018 for discussion on the three forms of governance and which would be befitting for SLPS. At the January 17, 2018 meeting the Committee voted with 8 ayes and 1 abstention to recommend to the Special Administrative Board to transition governance to *an* Elected Board with a definitive transition period and a definitive process.

Mrs. Clinkscale thanked Mr. Gaines for leading the efforts of transition that's crucial to the District and teaching and learning.

Mr. Sullivan commended Mr. Gaines and the Task Force Committee. A daunting task now presents itself before the SAB to begin a transition. Many groups have looked at how transitions could work; what the transition should look like, and how the transition should take place. But none could provide a conclusive answer. Different entities and organizations have been observing this for the past 6 to 12 months. People across the community – teachers, parents, community leaders and legislators, now have reservations and concerns about where does the District go from here. There's a unified answer and a unified conclusion to return "an" Elected Board with a transition period and a transition process with no specifics as to how this is to be done. The task now is to figure out how; it could be legislatively dictated or work collectively, putting aside all differences, and figure out how to achieve what sounds so simple to shift transition of governance to the current Elected Board. It's important for people to remember that the SAB and/or a member of the SAB could have been and still can be replaced at any time. Even if the people change, the *body itself* remains in tack. There needs to be one collaborative goal to insure the Transitional School District is terminated by the State of Missouri as required by State Statute.

Mr. Gaines summed up his report. The SAB will work with the Elected Board to ensure the transition is both learning and uniformed. Task Force members are subject to be called upon as this process moves forward. Many, many opinions have been shared on this subject and many have asked what happens now. The facts remains, the recommendation came from the public to begin the transition of governance back to the **Current** Elected Board.



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At the conclusion of Mr. Gaines' report, the following motion was put forth. On a motion by Mr. Gaines and second by Mrs. Clinkscale, on the following roll call vote, the Special Administrative Board of the Transitional School District of the City of St. Louis, voted to return the St. Louis Public Schools to the governance of the **Current** Elected School Board, with a transition program to be determined within the next few weeks.

**AYE:** Mrs. Clinkscale, Mr. Gaines, Mr. Sullivan

**NAY:** None

The motion passed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board, on a motion by Mrs. Clinkscale and seconded by Mr. Gaines on the following roll call vote, the Board voted to adjourn at 7:31PM.

**AYE:** Mrs. Clinkscale, Mr. Gaines, Mr. Sullivan

**NAY:** None

The motion passed.